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Plague at Shuitung.

CANTON, CHINA, January 23, 1902.

SIR: I learnt this morning that the bubonic plague has broken out at Shuitung, and considerably over 100 natives have already died of it. I promptly cabled you as follows:

SECRETARY OF STATE, Washington, D. C.: Over 100 deaths of plague at Shuitung, 250 miles south of Canton.—McWADE.

Shuitung is an unwalled town of about 30,000 inhabitants lying on an open bay just off the seacoast, and is about 250 miles to the south of Canton. It is the shipping center for the surrounding country, but has never yet been open to foreign traffic. Four steam launches carrying passengers and freight make regular trips between it and Canton. The plague works fearful havoc there every year and owing to the utter absence of sanitary arrangements of any kind, it has at least several thousand of victims annually. No reliable statistics of the mortality however, can be obtained from native official sources.

There are no cases of plague at Canton.

Respectfully,

ROBERT M. McWade, United States Consul.

Hon. Assistant Secretary of State.

Other deaths from cholera at Canton.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, D. C., March 6, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the following telegram has been received from the consul at Canton, China, announcing the death from cholera of Thomas Stephenson, senior officer of the Customs Service:

CANTON, CHINA, March 5, 1902.

SECRETARY OF STATE, Washington, D. C.: Thomas Stephenson, American citizen, senior officer of the Customs Service, died here today. Cholera.—McWade.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, D. C., March 7, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you, for the information of the U.S. Marine-Hospital Service, that the following telegram has been received from the consul at Canton, China, reporting the spread of cholera:

CANTON, CHINA, March 6, 1902.

SECRETARY OF STATE, Washington, D. C.: Cholera increasing; another European died today. Customs Club closed. Employees ordered live boats on river.—McWade.

Respectfully,

JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.